

To: Drew McConville[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Feldt, Lisa[Feldt.Lisa@epa.gov]; Ganesan, Arvin[Ganesan.Arvin@epa.gov]; Pieh, Lusenii[Pieh.Luseni@epa.gov]
Cc: Ann Johnson[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Boots, Michael J.[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Zaidi, Ali[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Tuss, Taryn L.[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Wu, Portia[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Nitin Natarajan[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Reynolds, Thomas[Reynolds.Thomas@epa.gov]; Keyes-Fleming, Gwendolyn[KeyesFleming.Gwendolyn@epa.gov]; Breen, Barry[Breen.Barry@epa.gov]; Stanton, Larry[Stanton.Larry@epa.gov]
From: Stanislaus, Mathy
Sent: Fri 1/10/2014 3:39:26 PM
Subject: Re: West Virginia chemical spill prompts state of emergency, water ban in 5 counties

See additional update:

EOC Spot Report: Chemical Spill, Charleston WV – Update #1

US Environmental Protection Agency

Report as of 2330 January 9, 2014

Overview: Earlier today there was a chemical spill from the Freedom Industries plant. The spilled chemical was methylcyclohexane, which is reportedly used in coal preparation and processing. The spill went into the Elk River sometime earlier in the day and there was an early report of an odor. The Governor of WV has declared a state of emergency for at least several counties. The Kanawha Valley Water Treatment Plant detected the chemical even after the increased carbon treatment effort was put in place.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions: WV issued an order to not drink cook or bathe in the water, which affects approximately 100,000 people. WV is conducting additional water sampling. The Civil Support Team has been reported to be deployed to the WVEOC to assist in supplying water to residents.

EPA Actions: An EPA OSC Is deploying to the WV EOC. The estimated time of arrival is tomorrow morning. EPA also has been in contact with FEMA Region 3 which has activated its RRCC for this event. FEMA has requested an EPA representative to work at their RRCC. EPA Region 3 is handling that request.

Media Interest: High

The EOC will continue to monitor and provided updates as needed.

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From: Stanislaus, Mathy
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 6:19:49 PM
To: Drew McConville; Feldt, Lisa; Ganesan, Arvin; Pieh, Lusenii
Cc: Ann Johnson; Boots, Michael J.; Zaidi, Ali; Tuss, Taryn L.; Wu, Portia; Nitin Natarajan; Reynolds, Thomas; Keyes-Fleming, Gwendolyn; Breen, Barry; Stanton, Larry
Subject: Re: West Virginia chemical spill prompts state of emergency, water ban in 5 counties

Here's info as we know it:

This afternoon there was a chemical spill from Freedom Industries, which is the old Pennzoil Refinery. The spilled chemical was methylcyclohexane, which is used in coal preparation and processing. Spill into the ELK River occurred sometime earlier in the day and there was an early report of an odor. The Gov of WV declared a state of emergency for at least five counties. The Kanawha Valley Water Treatment Plant detected the chemical even after the increased carbon treatment effort.

WV issued an order to not drink cook or bathe in the water, which affects approximately 100,000 people. WV is conducting additional water sampling. The Civil Support Team is also deployed to the WVEOC to assist in supplying water to residents. The WV EOC is operational but have not requested EPA assistance. EPA has contacted WV DEP and offered EPA assistance.

From: Stanislaus, Mathy
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 6:13:51 PM
To: Drew McConville; Feldt, Lisa; Ganesan, Arvin; Pieh, Luseni
Cc: Ann Johnson; Boots, Michael J.; Zaidi, Ali; Tuss, Taryn L.; Wu, Portia; Nitin Natarajan; Reynolds, Thomas; Keyes-Fleming, Gwendolyn; Breen, Barry; Stanton, Larry
Subject: Re: West Virginia chemical spill prompts state of emergency, water ban in 5 counties

R3 is in contact with WV EPA, but has not been asked to assist at this point. We are monitoring, and have assured WV that we are fully prepared to deploy as needed. I'll give an update as I get it.

From: Stanislaus, Mathy
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 5:32:15 PM
To: Drew McConville; Feldt, Lisa; Ganesan, Arvin; Pieh, Luseni
Cc: Ann Johnson; Boots, Michael J.; Zaidi, Ali; Tuss, Taryn L.; Wu, Portia; Nitin Natarajan
Subject: Re: West Virginia chemical spill prompts state of emergency, water ban in 5 counties

Drew: I'm checking - will get info back ASAP

From: McConville, Drew <[REDACTED]> **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 5:15:45 PM
To: Stanislaus, Mathy; Feldt, Lisa; Ganesan, Arvin; Pieh, Luseni
Cc: Johnson, Ann; Boots, Michael J.; Zaidi, Ali; Tuss, Taryn L.; Wu, Portia; Natarajan, Nitin
Subject: Fw: West Virginia chemical spill prompts state of emergency, water ban in 5 counties

Team EPA -- Any info you can share on this spill?

From: Wu, Portia
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 08:08 PM
To: McConville, Drew; Natarajan, Nitin; Johnson, Ann
Cc: Zaidi, Ali
Subject: FW: West Virginia chemical spill prompts state of emergency, water ban in 5 counties

CEQ colleagues what else are you hearing about how this happened?

-----Original Message-----

From: Whithorne, Bobby

Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 7:51 PM

To: Alexander, Ray; Tribble, Ahsha; Mastromonaco, Alyssa; DL-WHO-Press; Natarajan, Nitin

Subject: NBC: West Virginia chemical spill prompts state of emergency, water ban in 5 counties

<http://usnews.nbcnews.com/news/2014/01/09/22245996-west-virginia-chemical-spill-prompts-state-of-emergency-water-ban-in-5-counties>

West Virginia chemical spill prompts state of emergency, water ban in 5 counties

By Becky Bratu, Staff Writer, NBC News

West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin declared a state of emergency Thursday in five counties because of a chemical spill into the Elk River.

The state of emergency includes West Virginia American Water customers in Boone, Lincoln, Kanawha, Jackson and Putnam counties, according to NBC station WSAZ.

Residents were told not to drink the water, bathe in it or cook with the water and only use it for flushing and fire emergencies. Boiling it will not remove the chemicals.

The declaration is believed to impact 100,000 customers, WSAZ reported.

The station said the chemical leaked from a tank at Freedom Industries in Charleston. The leaked product is 4-methylcyclohexane methanol, which is used in the froth flotation process of coal washing and preparation, according to WSAZ.

Freedom Industries did not immediately respond for comment.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.